



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Municipal Police Training Committee
“Training for Today, Planning for the Future”

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Dolores J. Ford
Interim Executive Director

TO: All Chiefs and Training Officers
FROM: Lori Ford, Interim Executive Director
DATE: March 17, 2009
RE: DISTANCE LEARNING

The Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) is happy to announce the start of the MPTC Distance Learning program. The MPTC Distance Learning Coordinator and Developer is Ms. Sandra Sousa. She is spearheading our efforts to provide an alternative to traditional classroom instruction.

The MPTC has partnered with the Massachusetts State Police (MSP) to utilize their course delivery system with all MPTC training clearly labeled as such to make it easy for officers to click on the correct e-training module. Should your department decide to make use of some of the MSP On-line training, please do so, as it is also available to municipal departments.

The first MPTC course to be posted is *Legal Updates 2008-2009*. It will be available by March 20th. We are currently developing on-line versions of the remaining 2008-2009 in-service curriculums and anticipate the balance being online as of May 1st. All of these on-line courses will be MPTC approved curriculum consistent with the training provided in the classroom setting. We will add/change courses as needed. Some courses, such as CPR/AED First Responders and Defensive Tactics, will require additional practical components to complete the in-service program at a reduced time requirement. We will provide guidance on the specifics as they are finalized.

All MPTC on-line courses will include an exam of randomized questions drawn from a question bank. Should an officer fail to pass the exam, they may retake it after a course review. Future plans include a 4-5 question survey at the end of the course to gather feedback on the system.

To facilitate departments' use of the system, MPTC has scheduled training sessions across the state in conjunction with MSP. Each department must designate one or two "Registrars", a representative who will be trained in how to add officers, gather training reports and maintain the system for their department. It involves approximately two hours of training and includes how to access the MPTC courses. If your department has previously used the MSP On-line training, log-on to the system is handled in the same manner, but you may want to attend one of the training sessions as a refresher. To sign up for one of these trainings, please email MPTC-elearning@massmail.state.ma.us.

MPTC on-line training (and all MSP courses) are available at **NO COST** to departments. An additional benefit of the e-Learning program is it allows departments to extend the in-service training year throughout the summer to complete in-service requirements. This removes the constraint of scheduling officers to complete in-service training by June of each year (this may not apply to agencies with contractual limitations). As developments to MPTC Distance Learning occur, additional updates will be provided. The following preliminary training dates have been scheduled with more to be added, please check our website for a location near you:

Thursday, March 19	Yarmouth Police Department	9:00 am - 11:30 am
Tuesday, March 24	Boylston MPTC Academy	10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Thursday, March 26	Plymouth MPTC Academy	9:00 am - 11:30 am
Tuesday, March 31	Lynn Police Department	10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Thursday, April 2	Waltham Police Department	10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Tuesday, April 14	Western MA MPTC Academy	10:00 am - 12:30 pm
Thursday April 9 th	MSP Barracks, Faunce Corner Rd. Dartmouth, MA	10:00 am – 12:30 PM